

# EDNET TERMS APPENDIX - Chapter 8

## 8.1. Glossary

**Accounting User**--A person who works with accounting data in EMS.

**Active Site**--The site in an event that is being shown to the other sites in the event. Usually the site that is talking.

**Ad Hoc Event**--An event scheduled on EMS if extra space is available.

**AMX**--A computer with a touch screen which can be used to interface with the EMS.

**AMX Profiles**--A table in the EMS system used to convert commands from an AMX controller into the numbers used by the EMS.

**Audio Bridge**--A hardware device used to connect the two-way audio of multiple sites. A bridge is required for more than two sites and/or full program audio.

**Audio Feedback**--The coupling of audio between the speakers and microphones in a room. Feedback becomes a problem when the volume of a microphone mixer or monitor is set too high.

**Backbone**--The microwave and fiber systems that connect EDNET hubs.

**Basic Site**--A site which normally does not originate, but participates in, EDNET events.

**Baud Rate**--The data transmission rate on a serial data connection.

**Bravado**--A brand name multimedia package installed at some EDNET sites which can translate the screen of a computer monitor to video and vice versa.

**Broadcast Configuration**--An EMS event configuration where all sites in the event, including the active site, see the active sites video.

**Centralized Recording Site**--In EMS terms, a location where events can be recorded.

**Character-User Interface**--CUI; a simple character or text interface from a computer terminal with the EMS software.

**Classroom Configuration**--An EMS term for an event configuration where all sites in the event see the active site video except the active site, which sees the origination or broadcast site.

**Codec**--A Coder-Decoder converts analog signals, (voice and video), into digital form for transmission over a digital medium and, upon reception, re-converts the signals to the original analog form.

**Complex Site**--A site which both originates or broadcasts and participates in EDNET events on a regular basis.

**Compressed Video**--A digital transmission technique used to time-compress and digitize analog television signals for transmission. The signal is converted to digital form by the Codec. At the receiving end the signal is reassembled by a decoder to viewable analog form. Compression results in certain compromises in the motion-handling and sometimes the audio quality of the television signal.

**CSU/DSU**--Customer Service Unit/Data Service unit. An FCC-required device used to establish a demark between the local telephone company and customer owned equipment.

**CUES**--Central Utah Educational Services.

**DA**--Distribution Amplifier. A video or audio device with one input and several (4-6) outputs.

**DS3**--Method of data transmission at the speed of 45 MB/second.

**Demark**--Short for demarcation. A boundary between telephone company and customer-owned equipment.

**Directed View**--An EMS term relating to V-Tel sites, enabling directed view permits active switching of V-Tel sites.

**Downlink**--An earth-based satellite receive station.

**Duplex**--Any technology that can deliver signals in two directions simultaneously (telephone, voice, etc.)

**Echo Canceller**--Device to eliminate echoes in audio transmissions.

**EDNET**--Utah's video-based interactive distance learning system.

**ELMO Camera**--Brand name for an overhead document camera.

**EMS**--EDNET Management System. The software used for scheduling, accounting, and switching on the EDNET system.

**Event**--In EMS terms, a teleconference of any type (a satellite feed, distance learning program, meeting, etc.) that uses any EDNET resource.

**Event Configuration**--EMS term for the switching arrangement used for an event. See Broadcast Configuration, Classroom Configuration, Interactive Configuration, and Production Configuration.

**Event Facilitator**--The person authorized, for a given event, to log into EMS and do switching.

**Event Manager**--A person authorized in EMS to input event details for scheduling and to thereafter edit them as required.

**Event Switch Block**--A set of switch sets generated for an event.

**Fiber Optic**--Carrier of communications allowing two-way, full motion video/audio. Capable of carrying multiple signals.

**Frame Synchronizer**--Device which synchronizes unsynchronized video.

**Freeze Frame**--A still video image.

**Full-Motion**--Wide bandwidth, high-quality video and audio. Normally associated with broadcast-quality television, it is not compressed.

**Fully-Interactive**--Two or more EDNET event sites can interact with one Audio/Video another via both audio and video signals.

**Full Program Audio**--The audio of all sites including the local site in an event. This service is usually carried on a separate audio channel and can be scheduled if recording an event is desired.

**Gateway**--A V-Tel Codec dedicated to interface analog sites with digital V-Tel events.

**Graphical User Interface**--GUI or Gooney. A Windows-style interface with the EMS software.

**HDTV**--Higher (than normal) definition TV.

**Hz-Hertz**--An electronics term referring to a basic measurement of frequency in cycles per second. One cycle per second of alternating voltage or current.

**Hub Site**--(1) In the EMS, a site controlling a routing switcher. (2) A geographical location which coordinates local EDNET activities.

**Inbound**--A signal traveling toward your site.

**Interactive Conference**--In EMS, an event configuration in which the active site is seen by all configuration sites. The active site sees the previously active site.

**ITFS**--Instructional Television Fixed Service; transmissions from the low power microwave ITFS transmitter are received with relatively inexpensive antennas and microwave down converters within a normal service area of approximately 15 miles. The signals are then in a form which can be cabled directly to a television receiver for viewing.

**LAN**--Local Area Network. Transmission network interconnecting offices within a building or group of buildings, usually designed to convey different kinds of data.

**Leased lines**--Lines including fiber optic cables, telephone cables, microwave, or other transmission systems provided by commercial communications carriers.

**Local TOC**--A Technical Operations Center responsible for the daily operation of the EDNET system for an assigned set of sites. The first level of contact in most problem situations.

**Loop-Backs**--A configuration used for testing. Inbound audio or video is fed directly to outbound audio or video paths using patch panels or electronic switching.

**MCU**--Multi-port Control Unit. The central switching device in V-Tel used for switching at the digital level for V-Tel conferences.

**Microwave**--Portion of the electromagnetic spectrum from approximately 1,000 to 100,000 Megahertz. Microwave energy is capable of being focused in concentrated beams in specific directions due to its short wavelength characteristics and sent over long distances. It is also capable of being transmitted over wide areas from a central

point or shaped into specific coverage areas with special antenna.

**Microwave Television**--A technology which uses high-frequency radio signals to deliver video/voice data.

**Mix-Minus**--A full mix of conference audio minus the audio of your own site. This audio configuration is used to avoid creating feedback over the system.

**Mnemonic**--In the EMS, a truncated word(s) used to identify EDNET sites.

**Modem**--Modulator/Demodulator. A device which encodes and decodes computer data into audio signals which can be transmitted over phone lines.

**Monitoring Site**--A site that monitors the event, but does not participate.

**Multimedia**--The integration of several media into a single presentation; i.e. slide/sound or computer/videodisc.

**Network**--Multiple information sources or destinations linked via communications media to exchange information.

**Network TOC**--The main Technical Operations Center at the Eccles Broadcast Center in Salt Lake City. It can be reached at 581-4134 in Salt Lake or 1-800-863-3496 elsewhere.

**NTIA**--National Telecommunications Information Agency.

**NUES**--Northeastern Utah Educational Services.

**One-Way Feed**--An event configuration where the origination site's audio and video is fed to other participating sites. The participating sites are receive only. These events are not interactive and do not require the use of an audio bridge.

**Origination Site**--The site from which the any particular EDNET program is being sent.

**Outbound**--A signal moving away from your site.

**Patch Panel**--A panel in which electrical cords can be inserted manually to reroute video/audio signals.

**Path**--Communication links and devices that audio/video travels through to reach from

one end site to another.

**Point-to-Multi point**--See One-Way Feed.

**Point-to-Point**--See Two-Way Feed.

**Port**--A physical input or output of a device.

**Preview Monitor**--The monitor on which video of the participating sites can be previewed at the complex site facilitating an event.

**Production Configuration**--An event configuration in which the participating site always sees the output of the production site's switcher, and the active site's video is fed back to the production site's switcher.

**Production Site**--In EMS, the site where the production switcher is located for an event.

**Production Switcher**--An electronic video switcher with special effects.

**Program Monitor**--The main monitor on which an EDNET event is viewed at a site.

**Program Provider**--The organization requesting or producing an EDNET event.

**Push-To-Talk Box**--Device with a switch used to activate and mute microphones.

**Receiving Site**--Site receiving EDNET broadcast from origination site.

**Register**--Input of event details into the EMS system to see if EDNET resources are available for the event, the first step in scheduling events on EDNET.

**Repeater**--A device used to receive, reprocess, and transmit a weak signal forward to a more distant service area.

**Routing Switcher**--A device used to direct analog video and audio signals.

**Salvo**--A field in the EMS system where switches are executed.

**Satellite**--One-way distance learning via satellite communications with the capability of reaching large numbers of students in widely spaced geographic areas.

**Schedule**--In EMS, reservation of the paths of a registered event, the final step before compiling.

**SEDC**--Southwest Educational Development Center.

**SESC**--Southeastern Education Service Center.

**Simplex**--Any technology which delivers signals principally in one direction (satellite, radio, textbooks).

**Site**--A location which has the ability to transmit and receive (participate in) an EDNET event.

**Site Administrator**--Responsible for setting and administering site policies, observance of EDNET agreements and policies, and administrative support of the Site Coordinator. Also responsible for disbursing receiving site fees or authorizing the disbursement of those fees.

**Site Coordinator/Site Technician**--Responsible for overseeing site facilitation of all EDNET events at the site as well as the technical operation of the site, coordinating technical support for events originating from the site.

**Site Facilitator**--A person who facilitates the participation of a site during any distance learning event.

**Switch Edit**--A mode in EMS used to edit individual switch sets in a switch block.

**Switching Mix-Minus**--An event configuration in which the active site receives mix-minus from the audio console.

**Switch Set**--A collection of switch commands grouped together to perform a routing function.

**Switching**--The act of routing audio and video data from one device to another. This is usually done by sending a switch set to the switching device.

**Switching Site**--The site which executes the switches.

**T-1**--High-speed digital data channel/carrier with a bit rate of 1.544 million bits per second; a general term for a digital carrier (DS-1) available for high-volume voice or data traffic; often used for compressed video teleconferencing networks. Each T-1 circuit can accommodate 24 voice channels.

**T-1 Site**--A site that uses a Codec for video events via a T-1 data line.

**Teleconference**--A generic application of any technology which provides a meeting or conference over distance. Electronic communications between two or more groups, who are in separate locations via audio, audiographics, video or computer.

**Test Period**--A designated period of time for each EDNET event in which to test audio and video feeds.

**Test Time**--The actual time that the test period for each EDNET event begins.

**TOC**--See Local TOC or Network TOC.

**Topology**--A description of each site on the EDNET system, the communication links between them, and the devices involved.

**Two-Way Feed**--Event configuration with two sites seeing and hearing only each other.

**UPS**--Uninterruptible Power Source. A piece of equipment which provides battery backup for critical devices in the event of a power failure.

**UtahLink**--Utah's data-based learning source linking schools throughout the state in an electronic network.

**Voice Activated Switching**--Switching on V-Tel equipment that is activated by an audio signal.

**VSAT**--Very Small Aperture Terminal; a satellite technology which permits earth-based receive stations (downlinks) to receive satellite signals with a smaller (1.8 meter) receive dish.

**V-Tel**--A brand name of compressed teleconferencing equipment.

**VU Meter**--Volume Unit meter; a device that measures audio levels.

**WAN**--Wide Area Network. An electronic network collecting data from a number of LANs.